

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

March 15, 2005

On June 4, 2002, the County Board of Supervisors approved the Safe Haven Task Force recommendations that included 12 recommendations to effectively implement the Newborn Abandonment Law (*SB 1368*), often referred to as the “*Safely Surrendered Baby Law*” in the County of Los Angeles. Included was a recommendation to expand the number of Safe Surrender sites.

SB 1368 allows the Board of Supervisors to expand the number of Safe Surrender sites beyond the private or public hospital emergency rooms designated by law. Since November 2003, the Board has exercised that authority and designated the County Fire Department and 24 municipal fire departments as Safe Surrender sites.

Today, the City of Beverly Hills is requesting that the Board include its fire stations as Safe Surrender sites:

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD:

1. Adopt a resolution designating the City of Beverly Hills fire stations as Safe Surrender sites in the County of Los Angeles, effective March 15, 2005;

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BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
MOLINA	_____

2. Request the Fire Chief of the City of Beverly Hills to instruct all personnel of its Safe Surrender sites to accept physical custody of these infants, as required by Penal Code Section 271.5;
3. Request the City of Beverly Hills to utilize the Safe Surrender kits developed by the County or substantially similar ones developed by the individual city; and
4. Request the designated City fire stations to prominently display the uniform Safe Surrender logo at the entrance to their facilities.

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**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF
LOS ANGELES DESIGNATING FIRE STATIONS IN THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AS
SAFE SURRENDER SITES**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and the City of Beverly Hills, California are concerned with the number of newborn infants abandoned in Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, the State of California passed SB 1368, the Newborn Abandonment Law, often referred to as the "Safely Surrendered Baby Law," that provides that no parent or other person having lawful custody of a minor child 72 hours old or younger may be prosecuted for child abandonment if he or she voluntarily surrenders physical custody of a child to any employee on duty at a public or private hospital emergency room, or any additional location designated by the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2002, the Board of Supervisors approved 12 recommendations by the Safe Haven Task Force to effectively implement the Safely Surrendered Baby Law in Los Angeles County that recommended the creation of additional Safe Surrender sites, such as County fire stations, to improve access to places where parents may safely surrender their infants; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief of the City of Beverly Hills, has determined the feasibility of implementing Safe Surrender sites at all of its Fire Department fire stations, under current law, and upon adoption of this resolution will instruct all personnel of Safe Surrender sites to accept physical custody of a surrendered newborn, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 1255.7, and will comply with all the requirements of Health and Safety Code Section 1255.7; and

WHEREAS, this Board of Supervisors hereby finds and declares this resolution is being adopted pursuant to the powers granted by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles designate the fire stations of the City of Beverly Hills as Safe Surrender sites, effective March 15, 2005, and requests the Fire Chief to instruct all personnel of Safe Surrender sites to accept physical custody of a surrendered newborn as stipulated by Penal Code Section 271.5.

The foregoing resolution was adopted on the 15th day of March, 2005 by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, Executive Officer-Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles

Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Raymond G. Fortner, Jr.

County Counsel

By: _____

Deputy